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Agenda item 118

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Tammam **Sulaiman** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 118 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/53/464 and Add.1–4.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 65th and 66th meetings, on 13 July 1999. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/53/SR.65 and 66).

3. In addition to the documents listed in A/53/464 and Add.1–4, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 1 July 1999 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 28 June 1999 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions to the President of the General Assembly (A/C.5/53/67);

(b) Letter dated 12 July 1999 from the Acting President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 8 July 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/C.5/53/65).

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II. Consideration of two draft resolutions proposed by the Chairman

4. At the 66th meeting, on 13 July, the Chairman orally proposed two draft resolutions entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations", which were subsequently issued as documents A/C.5/53/L.77 and A/C.5/53/L.78.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolutions without a vote (see para. 7).

6. Following the adoption of the resolutions, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Mexico, the Russian Federation, Cuba, Australia (on behalf of Canada, New Zealand and Australia), Chile, the Republic of Korea, Georgia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Pakistan and India.

III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions on a number of requests for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations, transmitted by a letter dated 28 June 1999 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions to the President of the General Assembly through a letter dated 1 July 1999 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,[1]

1. *Decides* that:

(a) The failure of the Republic of Moldova to pay the amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations is attributable to conditions beyond its control and that, accordingly, it is permitted to vote until 31 December 1999;

(b) The failure of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Comoros and Tajikistan to pay the amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter is attributable to conditions beyond their control and that, accordingly, they are permitted to vote until 30 June 2000;

2. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

3. *Decides* to revert to the procedural aspects of the consideration of requests for exemption under Article 19 at the fifty-fourth session.

[1] A/C.5/53/64.

Draft resolution II

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the letter dated 12 July 1999 from the Acting President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,[2]

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions to consider the request of Georgia, under Article 19, on the subject of its arrears,[3] as a matter of priority, taking into account the views expressed by Member States, and to transmit its views, also as a matter of priority, to the General Assembly, to the extent possible, before the end of the fifty-third session;

3. *Decides* to grant Georgia temporary exemption under Article 19 of the Charter so that it may be permitted to vote until a final decision on the matter is taken by the General Assembly;

4. *Also decides* that the procedural arrangements in the present resolution will not set a precedent for the future.

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[2] A/C.5/53/65.

[3] Ibid., annex.